Bridgeton Landfill Video Information

The purpose of this document is to provide a better understanding of what you are viewing on the video.

What are the "Well Types" as presented in the "key"? This video shows the gas extraction wells (GEW) which are located within the landfill and the perimeter extraction wells (PEW) which are located along the perimeter and just outside of the landfill. The GEWs collect gas generated from the buried trash. The purpose of the PEWs is to prevent landfill gas from migrating off site. The "temperature" video will only focus on the GEWs.

Does a color shown at the well mean the fire has reached it? No. The colors are used to show temperature changes read at the wells. Yellow indicates a temperature of 131 – 160 F. Orange indicates a temperature of 161 – 180 F. Red indicates a temperature of 181 F and higher. Gas temperatures of just over 200 F have been recorded.

Does a red dot indicate the fire reached the well? Not necessarily. It is possible that the fire has reached the well, but it is also possible that the well is reading the temperature of gas collected from several feet away. Each well has a "radius of influence", which is the distance the gas is collected from the well. We do not have information on the radius of influence for the wells, and it may vary for each well. So, it's best to remember the well is pulling in gas from an area around the well.

Why are there so many yellow dots, and why do they seem to randomly turn on and off from month to month? The CAA regulations require the well temperature to be below 131 F. If the well exceeds 131 F, the landfill operator is required to take action to bring the temperature below 131 F. So, it is possible for a well to exceed the temperature threshold in one month and below the threshold in following months.

Is there anything else that I need to know about the dots? Yes. The maximum temperature for the month was used. This means that a well could have exceeded 131 F at the first of the month, taken action and reduced the temperature to less than 131 F by the end of the month.

There are some wells near the orange and red dots that do not seem to change color, why is that. There could be multiple reasons, but two common reasons would be 1) the well did not pull in gas with a temperature of at least 131 F; and, 2) it may be a well that was added later than the current date on the video, and thus no data was available.

What is the source of the data used for the video? The data was collected from semiannual reports submitted by Republic to MDNR. We receive a copy of the report. The report contains monthly well monitoring data for temperature, oxygen and pressure.